GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4781
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
PATROLLING OF INDIAN OCEAN BY RUSSIAN WARSHIPS
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russian warships have started patrolling the Indian Ocean for the first time in almost a decade;

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto;

(c) whether two destroyers and a tanker from Russia`s Pacific Fleet, based in Vladivostok called at Mumbai in mid-February as part of a two-and-a-half month training voyage that will also take them to the former Soviet naval base at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it is likely to help India in protecting the Indian Ocean?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d): Two Russian ships accompanied by a tanker visited Mumbai at the invitation of the Indian Navy to participate in the International Fleet Review from 14-20 February, 2001. The ships left Mumbai on 20.2.2001.